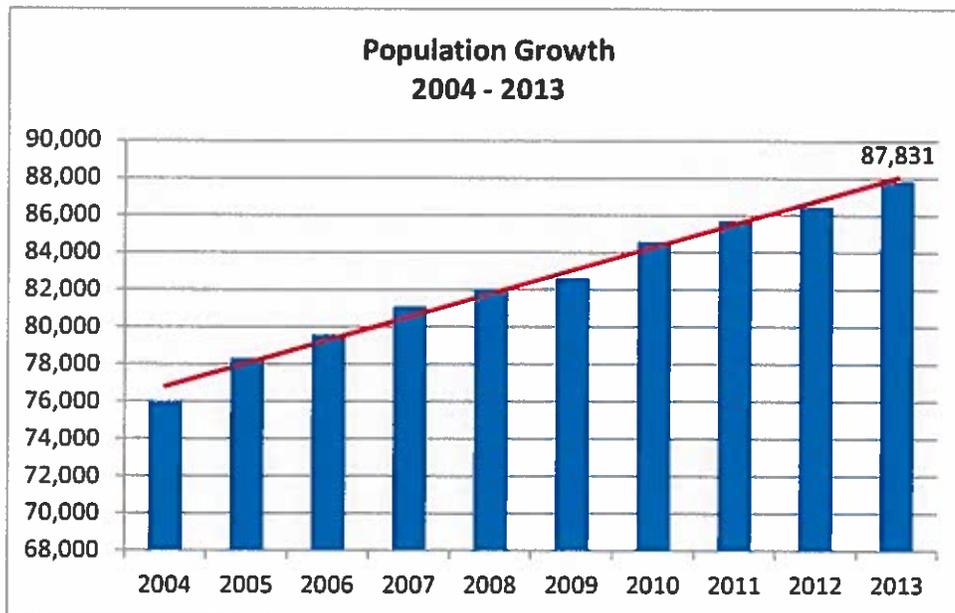


## CITY DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

This section of the FY 2014-2015 Operating & Capital Budget provides a snapshot of key demographic, economic, and social statistics about the City of Suffolk. This information is used to analyze trends that may have an impact on resource allocation decisions and to ensure that the City remains competitive with other jurisdictions in the Hampton Roads region.

### Population Growth

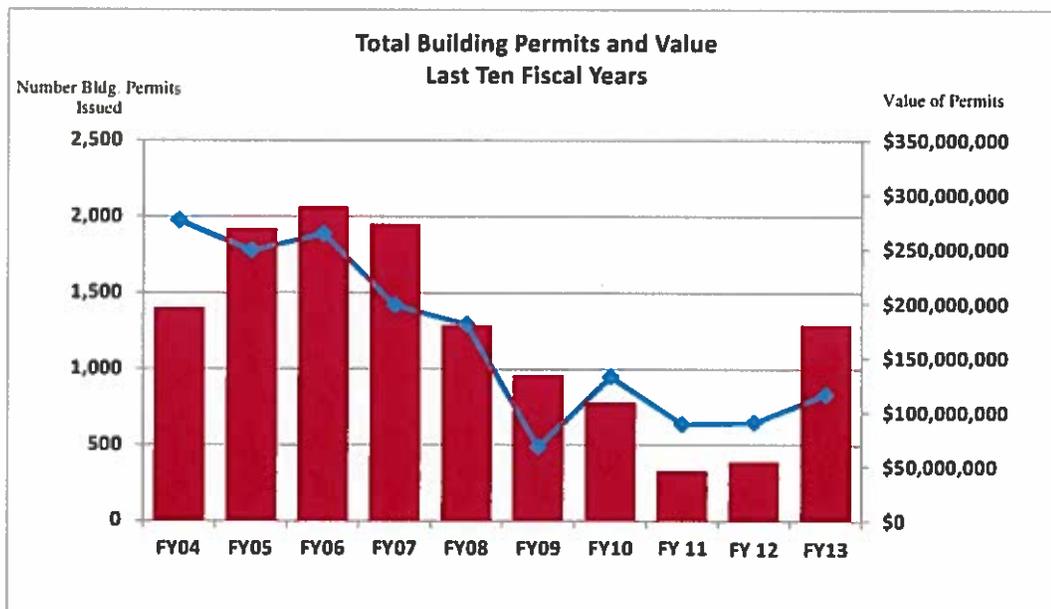
The City of Suffolk continues to be one of the fastest growing localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia; however, growth has not occurred at as fast of a pace in the last few years. Suffolk's population is estimated at 87,831 residents, which is a 1.6% increase over the previous year. Overall, Suffolk's population has increased 36.8% since the 2000 Census count.



Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

### Building Permits

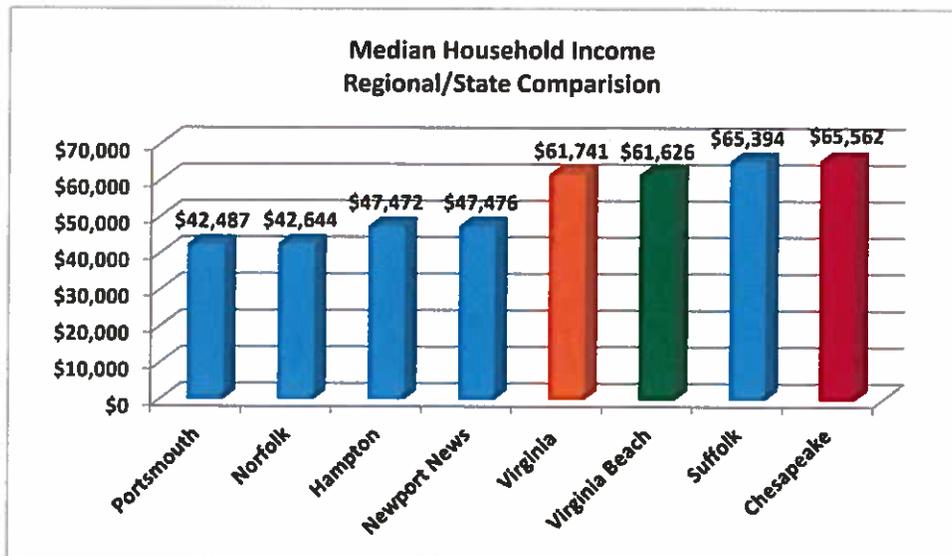
Over the last year, the City has seen an increase in the number and value of permits issued. However, the number and value of permits is still down since the height of the housing boom in 2006.



Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 2013

### Median Household Income

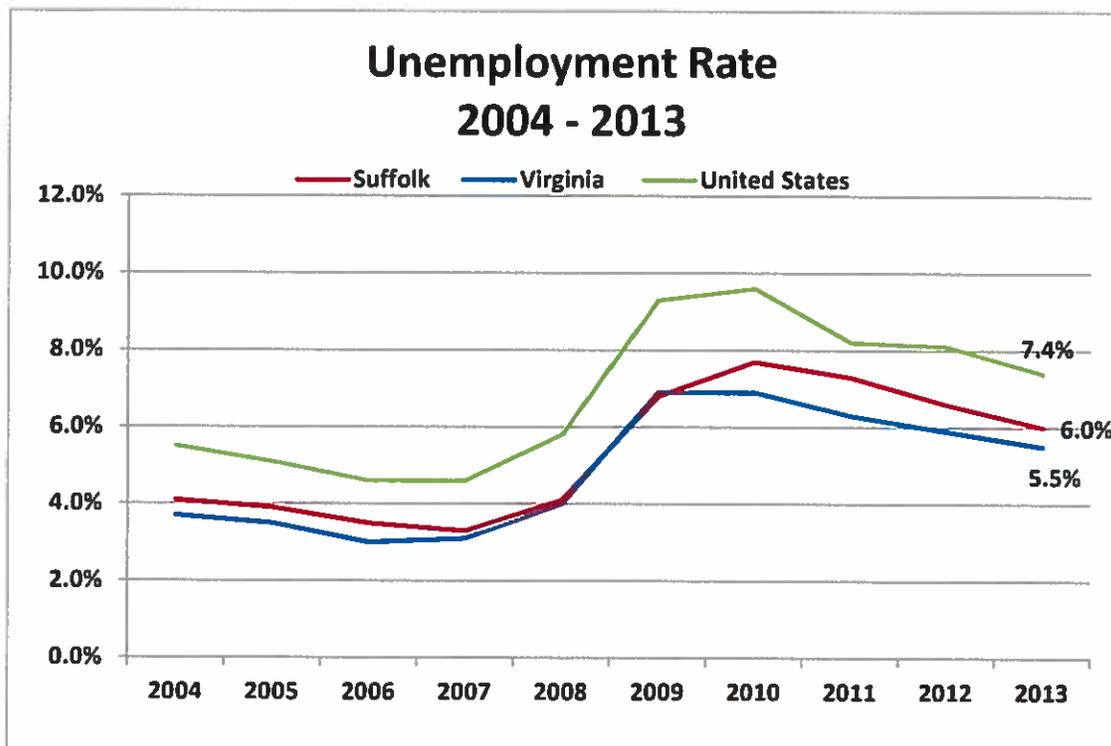
Median household income is estimated at \$65,394, second highest in the Hampton Roads region and above the State average (\$61,741).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder

### Unemployment Rate

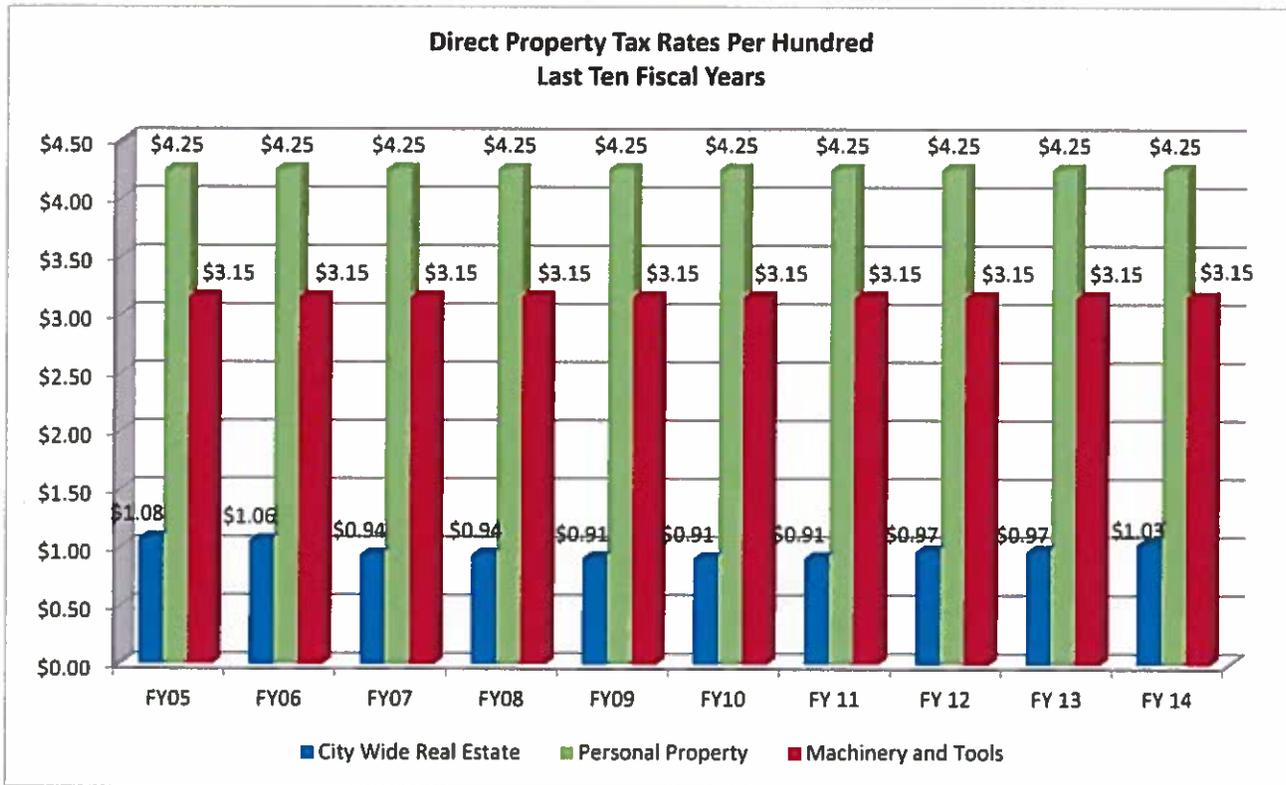
The average annual unemployment rate has ranged from 4.1% to 6.0% over the last 10 years and generally followed the trends of state and federal unemployment. Unemployment rates reached peak highs in 2010, but have since dropped over the last two years. Suffolk's unemployment rate of 6.0% for 2013 was slightly higher than the state average (5.5%), but less than the national average (7.4%).



Source: Virginia Employment Commission

### Direct Property Tax Rates

The graph below provides an overview of direct property tax rates for citywide real estate, personal property, and machinery and tools taxes over the last 10 years. Personal Property and

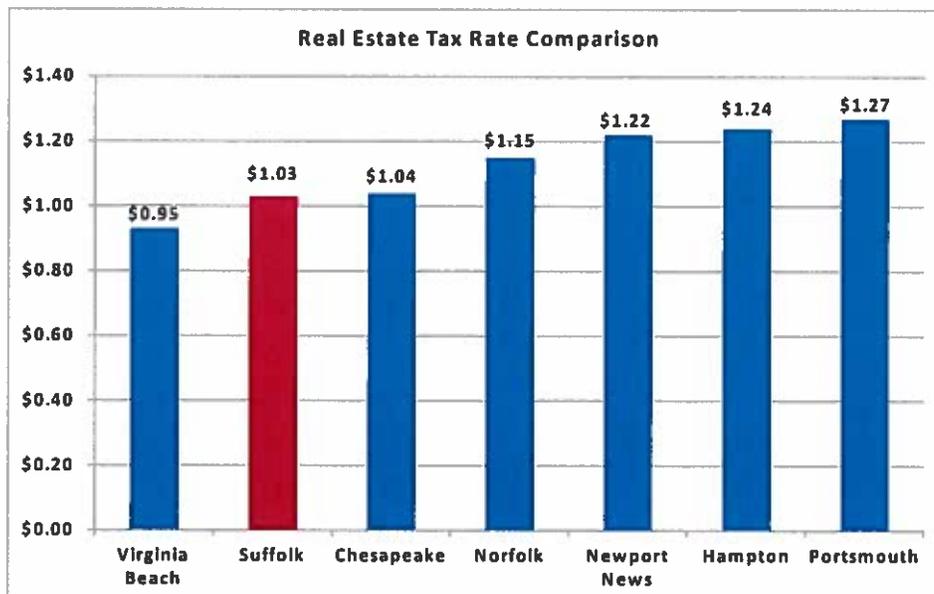


Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

machinery and tools tax rates have remained flat over the last 10 years. The real estate tax rate has ranged from \$1.08 to \$1.03 per \$100 of assessed value.

### Real Estate Tax Rate

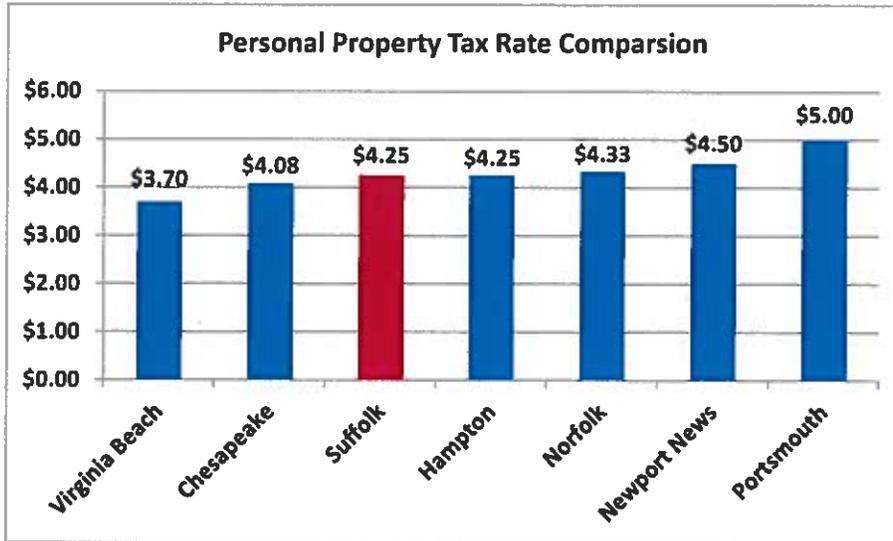
The adopted citywide real estate tax rate of \$1.03 per \$100 of assessed value is the second lowest among the seven largest cities in Hampton Roads.



Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

### Personal Property Tax Rate

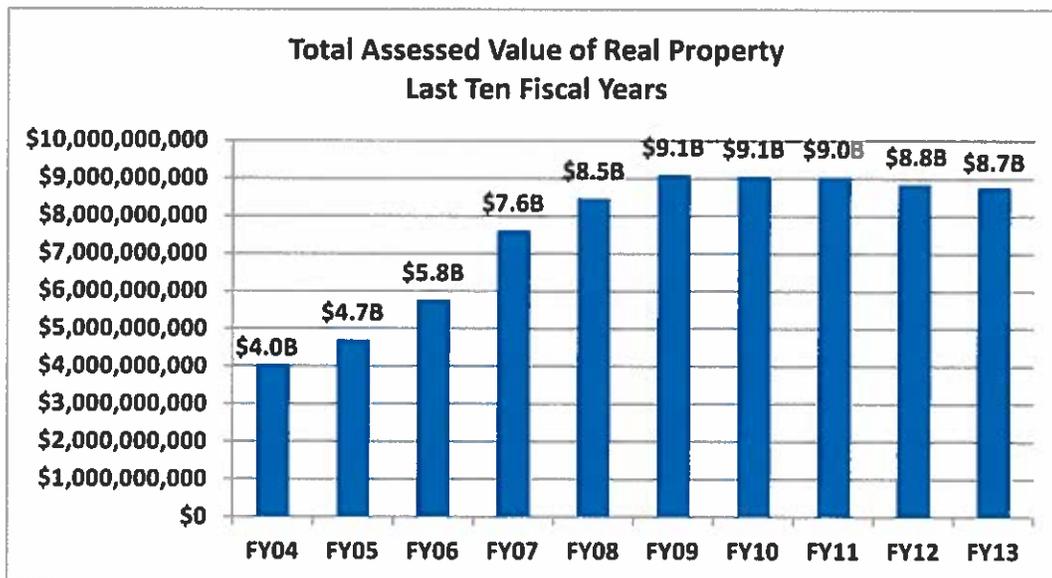
The personal property tax rate is currently \$4.25 per \$100 of assessed value and consistent with other localities in the Hampton Roads region.



Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

### Real Property – Total Assessed Value

As Suffolk has grown in size and stature, the total assessed value of real property has more than doubled from \$4.0 billion to \$9.1 billion in FY 2009. However, real estate values have fallen in the last few years and remain stagnant despite the increase in new building permits this past year.



Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 2013

**Allocation of Real Property Values**

A comparison of real property values from FY 2001 to FY 2014 indicates that residential parcels as a percentage of the overall distribution of parcels by assessed value have increased from 63.2% to 74.8%. Agricultural parcels have declined from 13.6% to 3.9% and commercial parcels dropped from 21.8% to 19.4%. Multifamily parcels have increased from 1.4% to 1.9%.

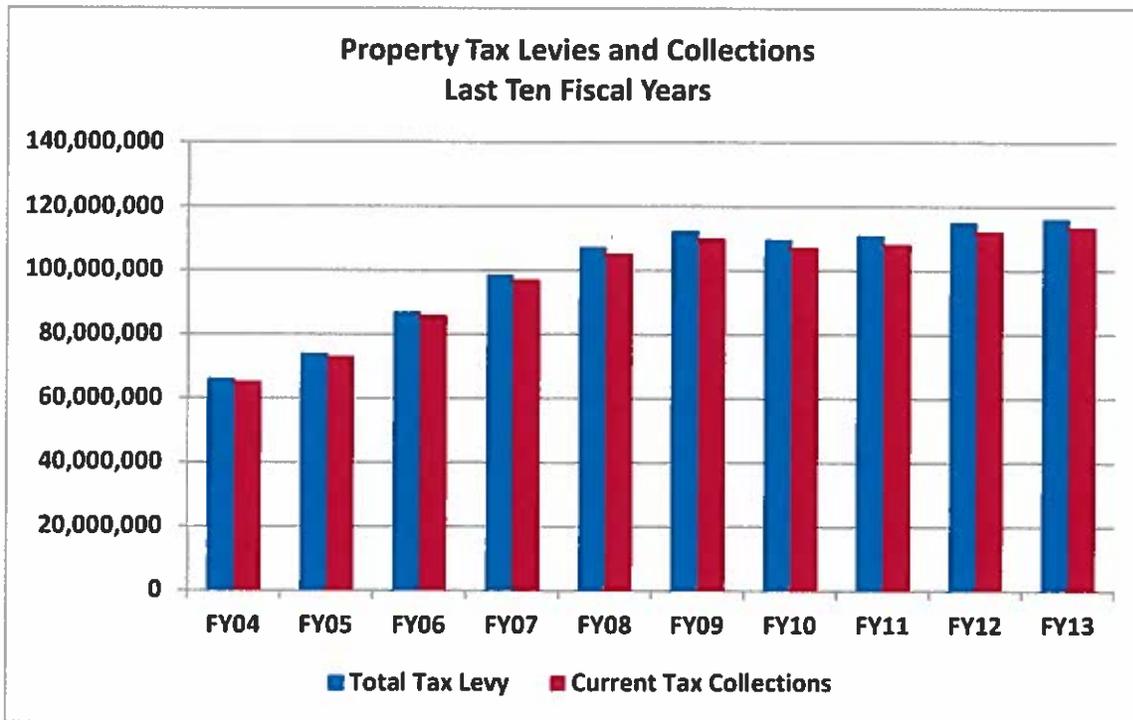
**Distribution of Parcels by Assessed Value**

|             | FY 2001 | FY 2014 |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Multifamily | 1.4%    | 1.9%    |
| Agriculture | 13.6%   | 3.9%    |
| Commercial  | 21.8%   | 19.4%   |
| Residential | 63.2%   | 74.8%   |

Source: City Assessor

**Property Tax Levies and Collections**

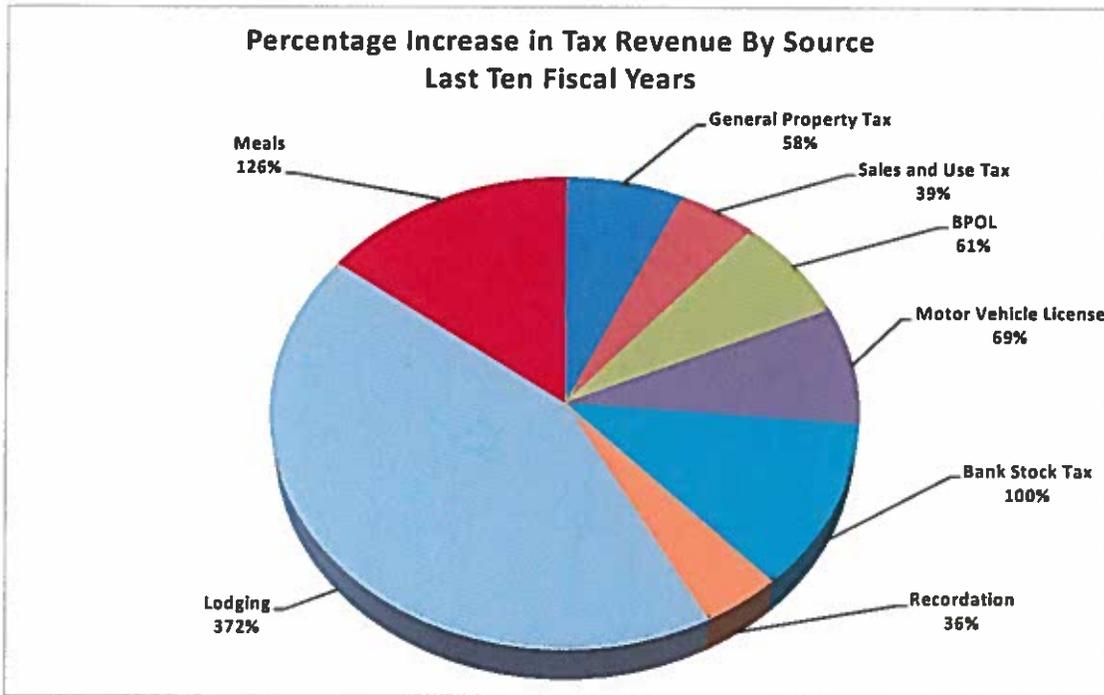
Over the last ten years, property tax collections as a percentage of taxes levied have remained consistently strong at approximately 98% each year.



Source: City Treasurer

**Percentage Increase in Tax Revenues By Source**

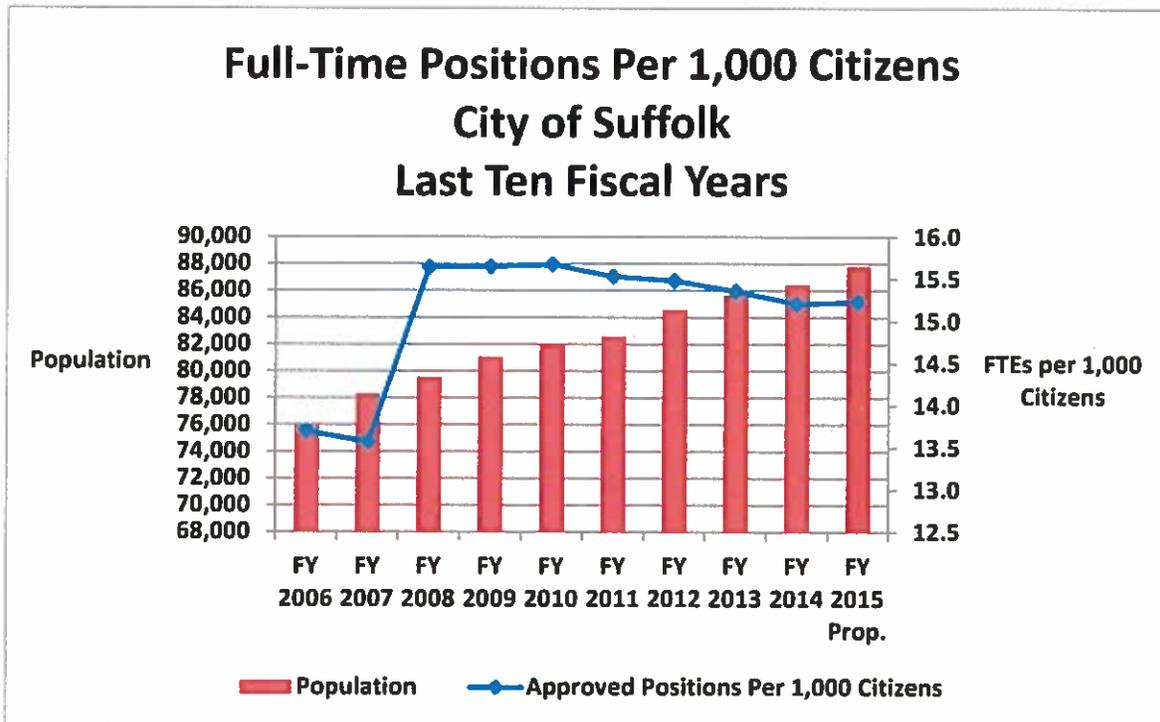
The chart below provides an overview of the percentage increase in tax revenue by source.



Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 2013

**Size of City Government**

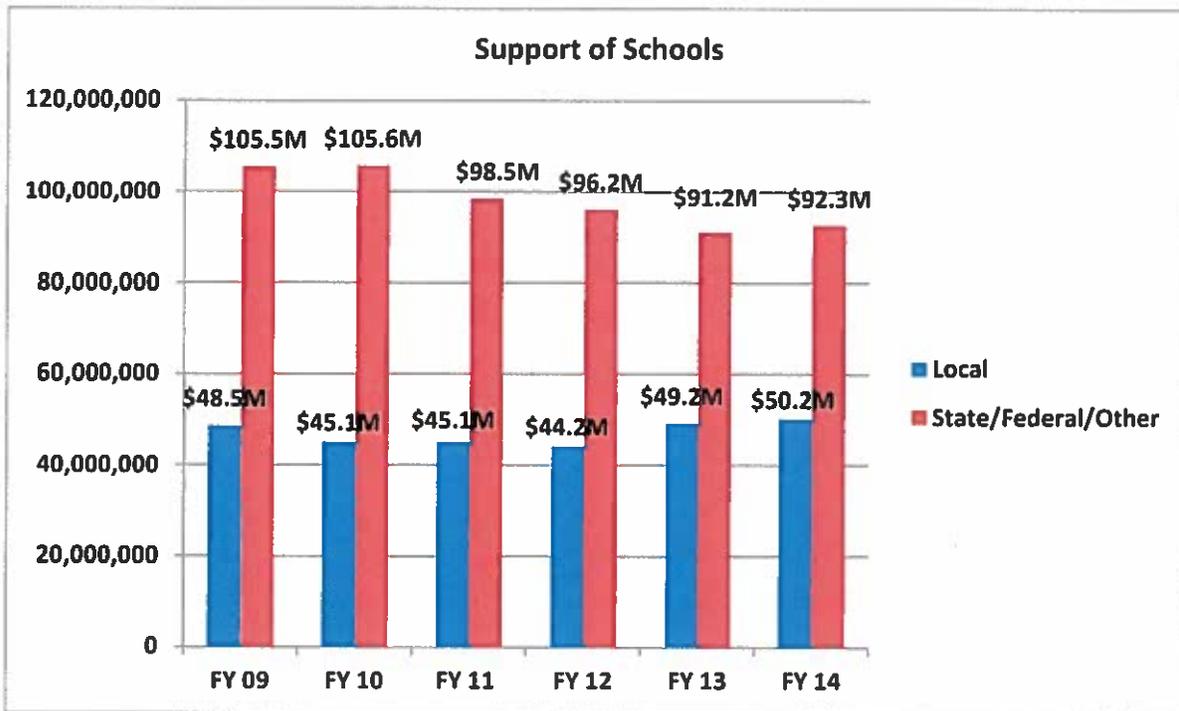
The proposed FY 2014-2015 budget provides for 15.0 full-time positions per 1,000 citizens. Since 2009, the number of full-time positions per 1,000 citizens has gradually declined despite the increase in the City’s population.



Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

### Support of Schools

Funding to support the operation of the school division is provided from local, state, federal, and other sources. Approximately 35% of the schools operating fund is derived from local fund support.



Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

\*FY 13' figures inclusive of \$2M one-time appropriation/local contribution

### Principal Employers

Suffolk's employment base is comprised of a diverse mix of business and industry with a workforce of over 40,000 employees. The top employers, excluding the City of Suffolk and Suffolk Public Schools, account for 6,309 employees and 15.1% of the City's workforce.

| Employer                               | Type of Business                            | Employees    |
|--|---|--------------|
| Navy Cyber Force                       | Government                                  | 1,578        |
| Joint and Coalition Warfighting Center | Computer Modeling and Simulation (Civilian) | 1,300        |
| Sentara/Obici Memorial Hospital        | Health Care                                 | 1,200        |
| QVC Distribution                       | Home Shopping Distribution                  | 1,000        |
| Wal-Mart Stores                        | Retail                                      | 900          |
| Sysco Food Services of Hampton Roads   | Food Service Distribution                   | 500          |
| Planters/Kraft Foods                   | Peanut Products                             | 340          |
| Unilever Bestfoods/Lipton Tea          | Beverage Manufacture and Distribution       | 300          |
| Lakeview Medical Center                | Health Care                                 | 270          |
| Bon Secours Health System              | Health Care                                 | 269          |
| Towne Bank                             | Banking                                     | 230          |
|  |   | <u>6,309</u> |

Source: Suffolk Department of Economic Development